



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

July 6, 2017

Former Nurse's Assistant Charged with Sexually Abusing Patients Extradited from Guatemala

A former nurse's assistant charged with sexually abusing eight female patients at a Tarzana hospital is scheduled in court tomorrow after being a fugitive for more than a decade, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Ramón Eduardo Rodas Gaspar (dob 7/26/68) faces seven counts of sexual battery by fraud, five counts of sexual penetration by foreign object and three counts of sexual battery on an institutionalized victim.

Gaspar is scheduled to appear in court on July 7 in Department 112 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch.

Case LA052625 was originally filed in 2006, accusing the defendant of assaulting a patient under his care at Tarzana Medical Center. Gaspar was arraigned on the charges but failed to appear in court on July 18, 2006, nearly a month after posting bail, prosecutors said.

On June 9, 2014, while the defendant was still on the run, the criminal complaint was amended to add allegations of sexual assault of other patients at the same hospital between 2005 and 2006.

Deputy District Attorney Cindy Waterman with the Extradition Services Section said Gaspar was arrested in Guatemala on Feb. 13 and extradited back to Los Angeles on June 29.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 26 years in state prison. He is being held on no bail.

Deputy District Attorney Gretchen Ford is the assigned prosecutor.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, West Valley Station.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.